

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Torrance, California,  
May 15, 1923.

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, May 15, 1923, and was called to order by President Gilbert at 8:00 P.M. The following Trustees were present: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor, Stone and Gilbert. Absent: None.

The minutes of the regular meeting of May 1, 1923, were read and approved as read.

The Clerk read two telegrams from the Board of Trustees of Monterey Park concerning bills up before the Governor for his signature. No action was taken on same other than to order them accepted and placed on file.

The following communication was read by Clerk Bartlett:  
"Mr. W. H. Gilbert,  
Torrance, Cal.  
Dear Mr. Gilbert:

Just received a warrant from the City of Torrance and observed your signature as President of the Board of Trustees. This is news to me, and I want to congratulate you and also the citizens of Torrance. We occasionally hear someone remark that a political office is a thankless job. It has been my observation, however, that remarks of this sort usually come from people who take little or no interest in the welfare of the community.

The sincere work of our Trustees since the incorporation has been a matter of great pride to me, and I have so expressed myself on several occasions, and I want to say to you and your colleagues that your services as representatives of the people have certainly been most commendable.

Very truly yours,  
Signed: Hurum E. Reeve."

Trustee Proctor moved the communication be accepted and placed on file. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded same which was followed by a majority vote in favor thereof.

A letter from the Business Men's Association of Torrance, signed by Harry P. Gadeky, Sec'y, was read. Same asking that the wagon restaurant on the corner of Border Ave. and Double street be removed.

Mr. Gadeky explained that the removal of this wagon was sought on the grounds of unsightliness, unsanitation and as it was against the existing Ordinance on fire zones.

Trustee Proctor rather resented an implication that special privileges were being allowed even though others had been refused the same right of operating a lunch wagon.

Trustee Stone could not see that any damage was being done to the other restaurants in the City with the few nickels that were being taken by this wagon, nevertheless he moved that proprietors of wagons be notified to cease operations July 1, 1923. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried.

A second letter from the above Association read as follows:

"The Business Men's Association of Torrance respectfully request that you take the proper steps to have a Deputy Constable or some Officer with authority to serve legal papers in the City of Torrance."

After some discussion of ways and means, Trustee Stone moved that the City Attorney be instructed to go before the Board of Supervisors and request the rearrangement of the township so as to give the City a Constable. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Mrs. Frank J. Schumacher addressed a letter to Mayor Gilbert complaining of being disturbed by bees-as a neighbor kept some bees. The lady explained the trouble and annoyance these bees were causing and asked that the nuisance be abated.

Trustee Proctor moved that the Ordinance committee draw up an Ordinance regulating the keeping of bees within the City limits. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried.

The request, written, of Wells & Drake to build on Lot 5, Block 2, a temporary structure, complying with the Ordinance, etc. was read. It was the sense of the Board that there was no objection if built of brick and was passed on to the Clerk and City Engineer.

Clerk Bartlett read the following petition:  
"The Honorable Board of Trustees  
of the City of Torrance.  
Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned property owners in the district bounded on the north by the northern line of 222d Street, on the south by the center line of Plaza del Amo, on the west by the eastern line of Arlington Ave., and on the east by the center line of Cabrillo Street, respectfully petition you to begin proceedings for the improvement of the roadways in said district by grading the same and paving with a good paving, not crushed rock and oil."

Signed by 32 property owners.

Mrs. Price was asked to notify the owners to meet with the Board and decide on the kind of paving they desired.

A communication from the Petroleum Midway Co. Ltd. was as follows:

"City Council, City of Torrance, Torrance, Cal.  
Gentlemen:

Application is hereby made by the undersigned, the Petroleum Midway Co. Ltd., for a franchise authorizing the laying, maintaining and operating of pipe lines for the conveyance of oil, water and gas, or oil, or water, or gas, and the construction and maintenance and operation of telephone poles along the streets named as follows:

Beginning at the easterly limits of the City of Torrance at the intersection of the City limits with the Long Beach and Redondo Road, thence running southwesterly and westerly along the Long Beach and Redondo Road to the westerly limits of the City of Torrance

Very truly yours,  
Signed: Petroleum Midway Co. Ltd.  
By S. C. Bryant,  
Right of way Agent."

Trustee Proctor moved that the Clerk be instructed to advertise for bids for the above described franchise, and that the line be laid where the Supt. of Streets may designate. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried.

The Petroleum Midway Co. Ltd. also asked for a temporary permit to lay a 6" oil line along the above described route as per blue print attached to request, agreeing to abide by all rules and regulations that are set forth in the franchise sought.

Trustee Stone moved that the temporary permit be granted conditioned on the City Engineer's O.K. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried.

A bill for damages sustained to his machine was presented by H. K. Reynolds. Same was referred to the City Attorney for his recommendations at the next meeting on motion by Trustee Fitzhugh, seconded by Trustee Nash, and a majority vote.

Mr. Klusman appeared before the Board stating that certain places in the pavement on Arlington Ave. were becoming really dangerous. City Engineer Jessup stated that he agreed with Mr. Klusman as to the dangerous condition of the street; also stated that the Willite Co. would start very soon to fix up said street.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the City Engineer be instructed to confer with the Willite Co. looking toward the immediate repair of certain places pending their readiness to do the whole street over. Trustee Stone seconded the motion which was duly carried.

The matter of the Glass Factory extension toward and over Border Avenue, as set forth by Mr. Bisbee, was referred to the City Engineer for recommendations at the next meeting. Trustee Proctor making the motion, Trustee Nash seconding, and a majority vote.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the Clerk be instructed to have 200 copies of the Zoning map printed or photographed, and to be sold at 25¢ each, including a copy of the Zoning Ordinance. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash Proctor, Stone and Gilbert.  
NOES; Trustees: None.  
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Mr. Meinzer requested a permit to construct a corrugated iron addition to the rear of his place of business.

Trustee Proctor moved that the request be granted and the permit issued. Trustee Stone seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Mr. Steadman complained of the water pressure in his neighborhood- it being hardly possible to get enough pressure to water the garden, and asked that some steps be taken to remedy the situation.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the water question be referred to the Chamber of Commerce for initial action. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried.

No bids were received for the work on El Prado park.

Mr. Jessup reported that the Fire house and Jail building was practically completed and that the grading was under way for the intended paving of the alley and approach to the Fire house, also that materials for the paving were being taken care of. Further

that the Amapola street proceedings were advancing; that he understood no bond proceedings would be necessary as the cost was so small.

Trustee Nash reported that the appropriations for the various departments were running along very well except for two items, sewer connections expense and Police Dept. expense. These items would need another appropriation before lone. Otherwise the budget was running true to form.

Trustee Stone moved that a recess for 15 minutes be taken. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried.

After a delightful lunch served by the Masonic order in their new Temple, President Gilbert called the meeting to order at 10:40 P.M. Trustee Stone did not appear for the remainder of the meeting.

Trustee Fitzhugh reported for the Ordinance committee that he had looked into the matter of corrugated iron buildings as allowed by other cities in the fire zone. After some discussion, it was decided to limit the number of square feet in such buildings, their position on the lots and that concrete floors must be provided, also that they shall contain not more than one-fourth of the area of the building in front.

Attorney Briney read:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 56

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, REPAIRING AND REMOVING OF BUILDINGS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUING OF PERMITS FOR THE SAME, AND FOR THE PROTECTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM FIRE, AND ALSO PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A BUILDING INSPECTOR."

Trustee Proctor moved that Ordinance No. 56 be adopted as read for its final reading, and that the same be filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Stone.

The matter of clerical help was again brought up by Clerk Bartlett, and Trustee Nash asked that he be authorized to go into the matter with Mr. Gadeky.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that Trustee Nash be authorized to take the matter up with Mr. Gadeky. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried.

The new Zone signs around town and in the vicinity seemed to be an enigma to all present.

The Police Chief again referred to the need of a machine for use of his department, also asked for another patrolman so as to be able to cover the City in the morning.

Trustee Proctor moved that Essex Automobile be purchased on lease contract. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Stone.

Attorney Briney read:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 53

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A CITY ELECTRICIAN, AND DEFINING HIS POWERS AND DUTIES; PROVIDING RULES AND REGULATIONS COVERING ELECTRICAL WORK IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; PROVIDING FOR LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS AND PERMITS FOR PERSONS DOING ELECTRICAL WORK

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that Ordinance No. 53 be adopted as read for its final reading, and that same be filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustee Stone.

The City Engineer mentioned that many complaints had been received regarding the condition of the streets after the completion of building operations, and recommended that a deposit of \$20.00 be demanded in each case to insure the street's being left in a clean condition.

The matter was referred to the Ordinance committee.

As Mr. J. J. Duffee's time had expired, Trustee Nash moved that the City continue to pay him at the rate of \$50.00 per month until the first of June, 1923. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustee Stone.

Trustee Proctor moved that the Business License fee be raised from \$3.00 to \$6.00 per quarter. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried. The above change was to take effect July 1, 1923.

Trustee Proctor moved that another night watchman be employed beginning the first of June at a salary of \$125.00 per month. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustee Stone.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that Ollie Stevens be employed by the Board of Trustees as superintendent of the Firehouse and Jail at a salary of \$125.00 per month. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustee Stone.

The City Clerk was asked by President Gilbert to write to the Pacific Electric Co., requesting that a pole on the southwest corner of Border and El Prado be moved out to the curb.

Herman Schock requested, through President Gilbert, that he be allowed to peddle ice cream through the residence district during the summer months. Said permit was to be granted as no opposition appeared.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that all bills, properly audited, be paid. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustee Stone.

At 1:00 A. M. the motion to adjourn by Trustee Proctor, seconded by Trustee Fitzhugh, received a majority vote.

Albert H. Bantred  
 City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Approved:

W. H. Gilbert  
 President of the Board of Trustees  
 of the City of Torrance.